



October 11, 2006

CTE Directors and Health Science and Technology Education Teachers:

Attached is an application for the **Virtual Healthcare Interactive Project**. This project is a partnership between the Utah State Office of Education and Intermountain Health Care. This is a unique program where students can view an actual taped surgery telecast live to their classrooms and speak to the surgeon using real-time technology. Students will receive exposure to a variety of healthcare careers related to the surgery as well as pre- and post-event curricula and activities designed to provide them with the background information they need to understand the surgical procedure: artificial heart or open-heart. With increased confidentiality concerns, work-based learning experiences have decreased in the health care area over the last few years. Engaging students through technology allows hospitals to bring more students into their environment with limited liability exposure and minimal interruption to the hospital.

How it works: The target audience is high school students interested in healthcare careers. The event is scheduled for February 5, 12 or 26, 2007 from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. In January 2007, a site team from IHC will visit each participating high school to help introduce students to the event and assist the teachers in providing background information for the surgery. On the day of the surgical event, the participating high schools will be linked to the Utah State Office of Education via EDNET. Students will participate in a 2-hour event where they view the taped surgery and can communicate with the surgeon directly. Participating students are expected to be present for the entire event.

Applications from interested high school sites are due back to the USOE by Monday, November 13, 2006. Applications will be reviewed by a committee from USOE and IHC. Notification will be made by Friday, November 17, 2006. Four sites will be selected from all applicants. Each site may have a maximum of 50 participants. Smaller schools are encouraged (but not required) to partner with other schools in their areas in order to maximize the number of participants. Sites will receive pre- and post-event curricula and activities that will be required for all participating students regardless of the Health Science course they may be enrolled in. Students will also be required to turn in a compliance packet from IHC prior to the event. Business attire will be required of the students during the event. Appropriate student behavior and discipline must be monitored by the HST teacher and/or administrators during the event as well. Post-event evaluations from the students and teachers will also be required.

Included with the VHI application is the rubric that the committee will use to select the participating sites. Please do not complete and return this rubric – it is simply attached for your

information. Please follow the application requirements exactly. Also included with this information is a student application and an application rubric. HST teachers may choose whether or not they use this tool. Its purpose is to assist teachers with more than 50 interested students in deciding which students will be able to participate. Teachers who choose to use the student application process should also give the rubric to the students so they are aware of how their applications will be reviewed. Ultimately it is up to the teacher/school to decide how the students are selected.

We are excited about this opportunity and feel that each and every participating student will have a valuable and exciting experience. Please feel free to make contact with any person listed below if you have questions. Remember that all applications must be received by the USOE no later than Monday, November 13, 2006.

Thalea Longhurst  
Health Science & Technology Specialist, USOE  
(801) 538-7889  
thalea.longhurst@schools.utah.gov

Shannon Fischio  
Work-Based Learning Specialist, USOE  
(801) 538-7594  
shannon.fischio@schools.utah.gov

Kara Kamerath  
Student Programs Administrator, IHC  
(801) 442-3144  
kara.kamerath@intermountainmail.org



## VIRTUAL HEALTHCARE INTERACTIVE PROJECT PACKET OVERVIEW



### 1. VHI Project Cover Letter

- Provides a project overview and general expectations for sites, teachers, EDNET facilitators, and administrators, as well as important dates.

### 2. VHI Project Site Application

- Application for completion indicating your interest in the project. This application is due back to the USOE by Monday, November 13, 2006. The application should be signed by the health science teacher(s), EDNET facilitator, CTE director, and school principal.

### 3. VHI Project Site Application Rubric

- For your information only. This rubric will be used by IHC and USOE staff to evaluate all applications received by November 13, 2006.

### 4. VHI Project Student Application and Rubric

- Provided as a tool for your site to use if you choose. Its purpose is to assist teachers with more than 50 interested students to decide which students will be able to participate. Teachers who choose to use the student application process should give the rubric to the students so they are aware of how their applications will be reviewed. Ultimately it is up to the teacher/school to decide how the students are selected.

- Completed applications should be forwarded to:



Thalea Longhurst  
Career & Technical Education  
250 East 500 South  
P.O. Box 144200  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200



- Notification of selected sites will be made by Friday, November 17, 2006.
- Four sites will be selected with a maximum of 50 participants at each site.